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Committee on Housing and Land Management

Seventy-ninth session
Geneva, 4 and 5 October 2018
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda

Revised annotated provisional agenda for the seventy-ninth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 4 October 2018 in room XXV.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2018-2019:
   - (a) Review and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant agreements.
   - (b) Sustainable housing and real estate markets:
     - (i) Implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and activities of the UN Charter Centres of Excellence
     - (ii) World Habitat Day 2018 in Geneva
     - (iii) Energy efficiency in buildings
     - (iv) Fire standards in buildings
     - (v) Activities of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group.
   - (c) Sustainable urban development and smart sustainable cities:
     - (i) Smart sustainable cities
     - (ii) Integrated urban planning
     - (iii) International Day of Forests: Forests and Sustainable Cities
   - (d) Land administration and management.

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(e) Country profiles on housing and land management.

3. Planning of work to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global agreements at national, regional, sub-regional and local levels.

4. Reform of the United Nations Budget planning and budgeting process.

5. Election of the Bureau.

6. Other business.

7. Adoption of the report and closing of the session.

II. Annotations

For the timing of the agenda items, please refer to the schedule on the last page of this document.

1. Adoption of the agenda

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/191), (ECE/HBP/190)

The provisional agenda is based on the decisions taken by the Committee at its seventy-eighth session and on the progress made since then in implementing the 2018-2019 programme of work. The agenda, which was prepared in consultation with, and agreed by, the Committee Bureau at its meeting on 13 April 2018, is presented to the Committee for adoption.

2. Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2018-2019

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/1), (ECE/HBP/2017/7), (ECE/HBP/2017/4), (ECE/HBP/2016/3)

In the Ministerial Segment of the seventy-eighth session of the ECE Committee on Housing and Land Management (8-10 November 2017), Ministers and Heads of Delegation adopted the Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development. This session, the segment will include a keynote presentation and a discussion on the progress made in addressing housing and urban challenges in the ECE region and fulfilling the commitments undertaken in adopting the Ministerial Declaration.

Chairs of the Committee's Bureau, the Working Party on Land Administration and the Real Estate Market Advisory Group will present their reports on the implementation of the programmes of work since the seventy-eighth session, and provide information on the progress towards the alignment of the Committee, Working Party and Advisory Board activities with the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing (the Geneva UN Charter).

(a) Review and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant agreements

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/1), (ECE/HBP/2018/2), (ECE/HBP/2018/L.1), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.1), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.2)

The Committee, at its seventy-eighth session in October 2017, requested the Bureau to prepare a comprehensive guidance document for the alignment of the activities of the Committee with the 2030 Agenda and other key agreements within its existing mandate.[1]

The Committee also requested the Bureau to formulate proposals, along with a rationale, for changing the name of the Committee, to ensure that the name accurately reflects the Committee's activities related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other relevant agreements. The Committee invited the Bureau to prepare proposals for a decision at the Committee's seventy-ninth session.

The Committee will be presented with information on the development of the guidance document for the alignment of the Committee's activities with the the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter, and other key agreements within its existing mandate.

The Committee will also be informed on a draft policy paper and guidelines for data collection for evidence-based housing and urban development policies which are being prepared within the UNECE-UN-Habitat joint project, "Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition", supported by the UN Development Account 10th tranche.

The Committee Bureau will also present its proposals for the possible change of the Committee's name and updating its areas of work.

The Committee is invited to:

- Take note of the preparation of the guidance for the alignment of the Committee activities with the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the Geneva UN Charter; and to invite the Bureau to update the guidance and present it for the Committee's endorsement at its eightieth session;
- Take note of the preparation of the policy paper and guidelines for data collection for evidence-based housing and urban development policies;
- Endorse the Bureau's proposal to rename the Committee to the 'Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management', as this name reflects a higher priority on urban issues as reflected in the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, including SDG 11 and other urban related SDGs; and the New Urban Agenda. The name change proposal is to be forwarded to the ECE Commission in 2019 for adoption;
- In view of the growing prominence of the work of the Committee on the review and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other global and regional agreements, endorse the Bureau's proposal to update the area of work "Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management" to "Review and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter, and other relevant agreements". This area of work would include Country Profiles, which already serves as an important tool for the review of the implementation of global and regional agreements at the national level;

[1] ECE/HBP/190, para 14.

- Endorse the Bureau's proposal to update the title of its flagship programme, Country Profiles on Housing and Land Management, to Country Profiles on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management.

(b) Sustainable housing and real estate markets

(i) Implementation of the Geneva UN Charter and activities of the UN Charter Centres of Excellence

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/1), (ECE/HBP/2013/3), (E/ECE/1478/Rev.1), (ECE/HBP/2016/2)

The Committee adopted the ECE Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management 2014-2020 in 2013. The Geneva UN Charter was agreed upon by the Committee in 2014, and endorsed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in April 2015. In September 2016, the Committee adopted the Guidance for the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter. In 2017, the Committee also endorsed the Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development.

To support the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter, Strategy 2014-2020 and the Ministerial Declaration, national and regional capacity building workshops were organized in the ECE region ever since the seventy-eighth session. This included side events and training events organised within the Ninth World Urban Forum (7-13 February 2018) and the Vienna Conference on Sustainable Housing (12-13 April 2018).

The Geneva UN Charter Centres in Albania, Estonia and the United Kingdom; provide support for the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter and Strategy in the respective countries. The Committee will be informed on activities of the Centres as well as on results of a study conducted by the Committee secretariat related to an assessment of opportunities for the cooperation of the Committee in capacity building in affordable and decent housing.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided on ongoing capacity building activities and work of Charter Centres and formulate recommendations for the future implementation of the Geneva UN Charter by member States, including for possible activities to be implemented by Centres.

The Committee will be also invited to endorse recommendations of the study on capacity building and request the secretariat to develop a three-year action plan for capacity building activities based on conclusions and recommendations of the study; and to conduct a survey of member States to identify the needs and priorities of member States for capacity building activities.

(ii) World Habitat Day 2018 in Geneva

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/1)

The Committee will be informed on the activities organized for World Habitat Day 2018 on the topic of 'homelessness'. The events include an exhibition organized at the Palais des Nations and a panel discussion which highlighted the need to alleviate homelessness through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs, and the Geneva UN Charter.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided and to recommend to the Bureau to consider conducting a survey and developing a policy paper on homelessness in the UNECE region, which is to be prepared for the attention of the eightieth session of the Committee.

(iii) Energy efficiency in buildings

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2017/3), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.3), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.4)

The UNECE Joint Task Force on Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings was established in 2016, and the Framework Guidelines for Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings were prepared in 2017. The "Energy-Efficiency Standards in Buildings" project received financial support from the governments of Denmark and the Russian Federation for the activities of the Task Force in 2017 and 2018. The Committee will be informed on the progress of the implementation of the activities on energy efficiency in buildings and proposals for the future work of the Joint Task Force.

The Real Estate Market Advisory Group updated the UNECE Guidelines on Condominium Ownership of Housing for Countries in Transition (2003) under the name 'Guidelines on the management and ownership of condominium housing', which will be presented to the Committee for adoption. The Committee will also be informed on the development of a training curriculum and the organization of capacity building activities on the management of multi-apartment buildings and energy efficiency in buildings, based on the updated draft Guidelines.

The Committee is invited to adopt the Guidelines on the management and ownership of condominium housing, approve them as an official publication, and take note of the development of a training curriculum and the organization of the capacity building activities.

(iv) Fire safety standards in buildings

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.5)

In 2017, following the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy in London, a group of professional and not-for-profit organizations responsible for research, development, publicity, and implementation of International Fire Safety Standards for construction and real estate sectors established a coalition with the aim of promoting the creation, maintenance, and use of high quality international standards, to be developed using a transparent and inclusive standard-setting process. In July 2018, the International Fire Safety Standards (IFSS) Coalition organized the official 'launch' event at Palais des Nations. The Coalition will develop a new, high level international standard that aims to provide greater clarity and global consistency in the application of fire safety to buildings at a project, state, national, regional or international level. It sets out high level principles that any person involved in the design, construction or management of a building around the world would be proud to be associated with.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided and to consider adopting the IFSS standard as an ECE standard.

(v) Activities of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group

Documentation: (ECE/EX/2016/L.10), (ECE/HBP/2016/3), (ECE/HBP/2018/L.2), (ECE/HBP/2018/L.3), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.6)

In March 2016, the ECE Executive Committee (EXCOM) approved the renewal of the mandate and the revised terms of reference of the Advisory Group until 31 December 2018. The Committee, at its seventy-seventh session, adopted the Advisory Group's programme of work for 2017-2018. The Committee will be presented with a report on the implementation of the programme of work, a revised draft of the Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets and the updated Guidelines on the management of multi-apartment buildings.

Further, the Committee will be presented with the draft terms of reference of the Advisory Group for the period until 2020 and the draft programme of work for 2019-2020.

The Committee is invited to:

- Approve the publication of the Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets as an official publication;
- Endorse the new terms of reference of the Advisory Group until 2020;
- Endorse the Advisory Group's programme of work 2019-2020;
- Provide input and advice on future activities of the Advisory Group; and
- Entrust the Bureau with overseeing the Advisory Group's programme of work for the period 2019-2020.

(c) Sustainable urban development and smart sustainable cities

(i) Smart sustainable cities

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.7), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.8), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.9), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.10), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.11)

The Committee, at its seventy-seventh session in September 2016, endorsed the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Smart Sustainable Cities (SSCs)[2]. Within the United for Smart Sustainable Cities Initiative (U4SSC), the secretariat developed, jointly with other UN agencies, analytical reports on circular economy and financing for cities. Using the methodology based on the KPIs, the secretariat prepared SSC profiles under the United Smart Cities project for the towns of Goris (Armenia) and Voznesensk (Ukraine), and developed a demonstration smart sustainable district project for Astana. The secretariat of the Committee has also prepared a study on guidelines for cities' action plans.

The secretariat and experts will report to the Committee on activities under U4SSC and the United Smart Cities project, including on the preparation of the studies, the finalization of the SSC profiles and the development of the SSC district demonstration project.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided, and to:

- Approve the publication of the Guidelines on strategies for circular cities as an official online publication;
- Approve the publication of the Guidelines on tools and mechanisms to finance SSCs as an official online publication;
- Approve the publication of the SSC profile of Voznesensk, Ukraine, as an official publication.

(ii) Integrated urban planning

The Committee will be informed on an ECE study under preparation on urban mobility and urban planning. The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided.

(iii) International Day of Forests: Forests and Sustainable Cities

[2] Methodology for KPIs for SSCs, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/Publications/U4SSC-CollectionMethodologyforKPIfoSSC-2017.pdf.

The Committee is invited take note of the "The Sky is the Limit" high-level panel event jointly organized with the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and the UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit, together with the FAO Liaison Office in Geneva, as part of the International Day of Forests on 31 March 2018, which showcased innovative approaches to integrate green spaces into cities through urban farming, vertical forests, wood construction and architecture.

(d) Land administration and management

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/S/2016/3), (ECE/EX/2017/L.1), (ECE/HBP/2017/4), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.12), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.13)

The Committee on Housing and Land Management, at its Special Session in December 2016, adopted a decision on the renewal of the mandate and adoption of the revised Terms of Reference of the Working Party on Land Administration for the period 2016-2020. These decisions were approved by EXCOM on 1 February 2017.

The Chair of the Working Party on Land Administration will report on the activities carried out by the Working Party since the last session of the Committee. The Working Party secretariat will also inform on the progress made on the preparation of the Technical Guidelines on Informal Settlements in the ECE region and the study on land consolidation.

The Committee is invited to

- Take note of the information provided; and
- Approve the publication of the Technical Guidelines on Informal Settlements in the ECE Region as an official publication.

(e) Country profiles on housing and land management

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/4), (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.14)

The Committee will be provided with updates on the status of the country profiles on housing and land management. In particular, the Committee will be informed on the status of the preparation of the Country Profile of Belarus and the requests received by the secretariat for the next country profiles to be prepared.

Delegations of member States will inform the Committee if they are interested in having a country profile prepared for their country.

The Committee is invited to:

- Endorse the key outcomes of the Country Profile of Belarus
- Invite countries to agree on requests received from the countries for reviews; and
- Propose financial or in-kind expert contributions to the next country profiles.

3. Planning of work to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global agreements at national, regional, subregional and local levels

An interactive discussion on the future objectives of the Committee in promoting sustainable housing and urban development will be organized through a plenary panel and four roundtable discussions. The participants of the events will be representatives of national and local governments, regional and sub-regional organizations and networks.

The four interactive roundtables will address the following topics: (1) Providing access to decent, affordable, adequate and healthy housing for all; (2) Promoting energy efficiency in buildings and effective management of multi-apartment buildings; (3) Measuring progress towards SSCs; and (4) Integrated urban planning and development.

The roundtable discussions will be followed by a plenary session which will include reports from the roundtables. A high-level panel discussion on the Committee's future activities will also be held in conjunction with the roundtables. The secretariat will further report on the status of financial and in-kind support for the implementation of the Committee's programme of work. Delegations will be invited to announce their voluntary contributions and in-kind support.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information provided.

4. Reform of the United Nations Budget planning and budgeting process

Documentation: (ECE/HBP/2018/Inf.15)

The Committee will be informed of recent development regarding the preparation of the United Nations plan and budget, and the implications for the work of the Committee.

The Committee is invited to take note of the information.

5. Election of the Bureau

The Committee is expected to elect the Bureau for its eightieth session.

6. Other business

Any other issues may be raised by member States under this agenda item.

7. Adoption of the report and closing of the session

The Chair will summarize the major decisions taken by the Committee. The Committee is invited to adopt its report based on a draft prepared by the secretariat. The Chair will propose a date for the organization of the next Committee session and will seek the agreement on the date. The Chair will close the session.

III. Tentative Timetable

Date	*Time*	*Agenda Item*	
Thursday, 4 October	10.00–10.15	1	Adoption of the agenda
		2	Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2018-2019
	10.15-11.20	2(a)	Review and follow-up to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and other relevant agreements
	11.20-11.30	2(b)	Sustainable housing and real estate markets
	11.30-12.05	2(c)	Sustainable urban development and smart sustainable cities
	12.05-12.35	2(d)	Land administration and management
	12.35-13.00	2(e)	Country profiles on housing and land management
	15.00-18.00	3	Planning of work to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global agreements at national, regional, sub-regional and local levels – *(Parallel roundtables in Rooms XVIII and XXV)*
Friday, 5 October	10.00-11.30	3	Planning of work to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other relevant global agreements at national, regional, sub-regional and local levels – *(continued)*
	11.30-11.45	4	Reform of the United Nations Budget planning and budgeting process
	11.45-12.15	5	Election of the Bureau
	12.15-12.30	6	Other business
	12.30-13.00	7	Adoption of the report and closing of the session